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PUBLIC INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 14, 2009

**Local Participant Qualifies for Hershey's National Track & Field Meet**

*Charleston, SC* – Matthew Tanner (Fort Johnson Middle) qualified for the Hershey's National track and Field Meet to be held on August 1, 2009 in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Matthew qualified for the 11-12 year old boy's 800 Meter Run by first competing in the city of Charleston Department of Recreation's local Hershey's Track and Field Competition on March 14<sup>th</sup> with a time of 2:39.94.

Tanner has improved his time with each Hershey Track and Field Meet, running a time of 2:33.61 on May 16<sup>th</sup> at the District Meet and 2:28.41 on June 6<sup>th</sup> at the State Meet.

Though they did not qualify for the national competition, other city of Charleston Department of Recreation Hershey's Track and Field participants competed at the state level:

**State Champions**

Deandre Burnell – Boys' 9-10 Standing Long Jump – 6' 11.5"

Chris Hethington – Boys' 9-10 Softball Throw – 127' 2"

Devontre Hamilton – Boys' 11-12 Softball Throw – 179' 2"

Linda Glanton – Girls' 13-14 800M – 2:42.93

Ashley Pendergist – Girls' 13-14 1600M – 5:56.13

Hershey's Track & Field Program was created over 30 years ago to promote youth physical fitness and provide fun learning experiences for children 9 to 14 years old. The largest youth track & field program of its kind is spring staple in the city of Charleston's Department of Recreation's youth sports program.

**FOR MORE INFO:**

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